

August 8, 2007

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
TORRANCE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance Parks and Recreation Commission convened in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 8, 2007, in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Cook, Gilbert, Hazell, McGee, Ning, Numark, Orpe, and Chairperson Smoot.

Absent: Commissioners Robbins and Taniguchi.

Also Present: Senior Business Manager Minter, Senior Recreation Supervisor Kaemerle, and Principal Librarian Theyer.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cook moved to grant an excused absence to Commissioner Taniguchi for the August 8, 2007 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. Commissioner Gilbert seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**3. FLAG SALUTE**

Commissioner Orpe led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Gilbert moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. Commissioner Hazell seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**5A. MINUTES OF JUNE 13, 2007**

**MOTION:** Commissioner McGee moved for the approval of the June 13, 2007 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Gilbert seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioners Robbins and Taniguchi, and with Chairperson Smoot abstaining).

**6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC #1**

Principal Librarian Theyer presented information regarding an LSTA grant opportunity for "Transforming Life After 50" that the Library is applying for. She reported

that the grant involves an application for a three-day training institute in November 2007 in the City of Pasadena to show interest, dedication, and capability. After completion of the institute, the Library will assess the needs of the baby boomer generation in the community through focus groups and surveys before submitting a targeted grant proposal to address the identified needs. She requested that Commissioners consider what role the Parks and Recreation Commission would like to play in assessing the needs of our state's growing population of active, older adults, and expressed interest in being placed on the agenda following participation in the institute.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**7A. STATUS OF EL RETIRO PARK PLAY EQUIPMENT**

Senior Business Manager Minter reported that, as of August 8, 2007, they were having trouble getting construction materials to install the forming and base rock for the rubberized surfacing; other than that, everything is going as planned and the play equipment should be accessible the week of August 20, 2007.

**7B. STATUS OF THE MOVIE AND CONCERT IN THE PARK SERIES**

Senior Business Manager Minter distributed fliers and encouraged Commissioners to attend the August 11, 2007 movie at Victor Park, the August 19, 2007 concert at Walteria Park, and the August 16, 2007 concert at Walteria Park. He noted that previous movies have had approximately 130 people in attendance in large part due to promotion by local homeowners associations.

**7C. APPROVAL OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT**

Senior Business Manager Minter presented the Parks and Recreation Commission Annual Report for July 2006 through June 2007 that was prepared by Commissioners Cook and Ning.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Gilbert moved to approve the Parks and Recreation Commission Annual Report for July 2006 through June 2007 as submitted. Commissioner Cook seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioners Robbins and Taniguchi).

**7D. MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION FOR THE CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS AND BOARD MEMBERS**

Senior Business Manager Minter reported that all Parks and Recreation Commissioners are registered as members of the California Association of Parks and Recreation Commissioners & Board Members. He stated that membership includes a quarterly publication, discounted member rates for the annual conference, general information regarding legislation, and training workshops.

In response to Commissioner Hazell's inquiry, he offered to provide additional information about the upcoming CPRS conference at the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner McGee commented that he attended a CPRS conference a few years ago and felt that it was more aimed toward staff.

**8. STANDING COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**8A. FACILITIES COMMITTEE – YOUTH SPORTS HONOR WALL**

Has not met.

**8B. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE – DOG PARK**

Chairperson Smoot reported that the Open Space committee met on June 13, 2007 and that public meetings were being planned to discuss the feasibility of having a Dog Park in the City.

**8C. PROGRAMS COMMITTEE – BENSTEAD PLUNGE USAGE POLICY**

Commissioner Cook reported that the Programs committee has held two public meetings and has received a tremendous amount of input from interested parties. He noted, that with hard work from staff, the committee has been able to come up with a priority list for scheduling programs at the Plunge and has suggested criteria for determining user groups. He advised that another public meeting is scheduled for September 4, 2007 to further redefine the usage criteria.

Commissioners Hazell and Numark received clarification from staff that Commissioners would have an opportunity to review the usage policy before the committee presents it to the City Council with its recommendations.

Commissioner Ning stated that he was encouraged by the wonderful show of public interest and involvement and is looking forward to finding a solution that will be satisfactory to most if not all interested parties.

**8D. GRANTS COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Orpe reported that the Grants Committee would be meeting in September 2007 to determine the timetable for the Grants program.

**9. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY**

**9A. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION**

Senior Business Manager Minter reported that June and July 2007 reports were included in the agenda packets and noted the 61 school picnics held at neighborhood parks, serving approximately 12,245 students during a two-week period.

He distributed the Fall 2007 Seasons Guide, the new brochure “A Guide to Your Community Parks,” as well as brochures on the four City parks that require permits: Wilson Park, Torrance Park, Columbia Park, and El Nido Park.

**9B. PARK SERVICES DIVISION**

Responding to Commissioner Numark's inquiry regarding the Sea-Aire Golf Course, Senior Recreation Supervisor Kaemerle stated that increased revenue was due to improvements to the green and the addition of a pro from Mulligans who is teaching golf to youth.

Senior Business Manager Minter added that Senior Recreation Supervisor Kaemerle has launched a successful program of offering free passes to promote the Golf Course.

**9C. RECREATION SERVICES DIVISION**

Senior Recreation Supervisor Kaemerle reported that skateboard camps have started at Wilson Park as well as a men's 7-on-7 soccer league at El Nido Park. He also stated that there was a sand soccer tournament with 28 teams during the International Surf Festival, noting that next year the City will be responsible for hosting the Festival.

Senior Business Manager Minter advised that resident registration for fall classes begins August 14, 2007.

**10. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC #2**

**10A.** Commissioner Hazell stated that he enjoyed the Fifties Gala.

**10B.** Commissioner McGee stated that he enjoyed the Fifties Gala, the Summer Kick-off at Wilson Park, the Historical Society's Rock Around the Block, and "West Side Story."

**10C.** Commissioner Gilbert commented that she also enjoyed the Fifties event and "West Side Story." She announced the Cultural Arts Center Foundation's Gala event with Martin Short on September 28, 2007.

**10D.** Commissioner Orpe stated that he enjoyed the Fifties Gala and encouraged Commissioners to attend Constitution Day at Arnold Elementary School on September 17, 2007.

**10E.** Commissioner Ning congratulated Chairperson Smoot on her election to Chairperson and noted that the Dashew Center event to honor Congresswoman Jane Harmon is November 10, 2007.

**10F.** Commissioner Numark stated that he was looking forward to attending the Dashew Center event and thanked City staff, the public, and the Programs Committee for their hard work.

**10G.** Commissioner Numark suggested sending emails to past participants informing them about the Fall class registration deadline for residents.

**10H.** Commissioner Numark expressed interest in serving on the Open Space committee.

10I. Chairperson Smoot stated that she enjoyed the Fifties Gala and recognized Commissioner Robbins for supplying the linens for the event.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** At 7:52 p.m., Commissioner Orpe moved to adjourn the meeting to September 12, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room. Commissioner Numark seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Smoot so ordered.

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| Approved as Submitted<br>September 12, 2007<br>s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk |
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